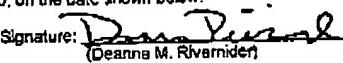


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEIn re Patent Application of:
Hajime Nakamura et al.

Application No.: 10/789,537

Art Unit: 2616

Filed: February 26, 2004

Examiner: Hassan Kizou

For: **WAVELENGTH PATH SWITCHING NODE
APPARATUS AND WAVELENGTH PATH
ALLOCATION METHOD**

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Respectfully submitted,

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